

**WTAMU Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**October 20, 2023**

**Attended:** Senators Fisseha Alemayehu, Bill Ambrose, Christopher Baird, Brandon Bang, Priscella Correa, David Craig, Kenneth Denton, Nancy Garcia, Callie Hisek, Eric Hoffmann, Kenneth Leitch, Guglielmo Manfredi, Kelly McCauley, Ashley Pinkham, Blake Price, Leslie Ramos Salazar, Matt Reardon, Laura Reyher, Jim Rogers, Bob Smith, Brian Spencer, Brigitte Whaley

**Absent:** Sean Humpherys, Roy Issa, Eric Meljac, Troy Tarpley

**Proxies:** Chelsea Arnold (Troy Tarpley - ANS: AGS), Alex Hunt (Eric Meljac – FAH:EPML)

**Guests:** None

The regular meeting of the WTAMU Faculty Senate was called to order at 12:20pm by President David Craig in the Buffalo Room on the WT Canyon campus.

Minutes of the regular meeting from October 6, 2023 were previously provided and reviewed. Matt Reardon moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

**Officers' Reports and Remarks:**

President David Craig opened with comments and discussion of his meeting with Dr. Terry regarding hiring, teaching evaluations, the Hill Institute, the textbook initiative, Faculty Senate responses, and faculty leave proposals.

David Craig also remarked on his meeting with Dr. Wendler, including Senate meeting questions, publisher agreements, faculty teaching evaluations, pedagogy, college meetings, and adjustment of the textbook initiative.

Regarding administration evaluations, discussion was held regarding Jarvis Hampton's comments on timing, developing a distribution list, and administration structure.

Finally, David Craig provided an update on the post-tenure review process, eligibility, and committee development information. A lottery is tentatively planned for 11/17.

Vice-President Kenneth Leitch reported on the College of Engineering meeting with Dr. Wendler and textbook concerns.

Secretary Kenneth Denton remarked on the RCOESS meeting with Dr. Wendler, Faculty Senate attendance, and junior faculty invitations to Senate meetings.

**Committee Reports:**

*Faculty Handbook Committee*

Ashley Pinkham discussed the EPML proposed amendment to the faculty handbook regarding wording on dismissal and faculty ombudsman officer timeline and cycle change. Discussion included how this change for Fall 2024 would affect the current ombudsman officer, including a possible need for a stopgap measure or completion of the previous appointment procedure.

Discussion continued on the EPML proposal and appropriate submission procedures. The 11/1 deadline for proposals was discussed.

*Joint Faculty/Student Committee on Academic Affairs*

Priscilla Correa discussed her efforts to connect with the student officers and the current events they are involved with.

**Unfinished Business:**

*College Meetings*

Discussion was held on the RCOESS meeting with Dr. Wendler, including the messaging about the mandate/initiative, time for questions, public messaging regarding faculty, and public messaging about the mandate.

*Handbook*

Blake Price moved to send the proposed handbook amendment (re: previously approved ombudsman timeline/cycle) to the handbook committee, and the motion was seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

*Administrator Evaluations*

David Craig called for discussion and motions on the evaluations. Callie Hisek moved to request delivery of the evaluations by 11/1 and have them open for one month, including review of the calendar year or tenure of the administrator. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation. Brandon Bang moved to inquire about who has access to the evaluations, which was seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

**New Business:**

*Graduate Faculty Status*

Ashley Pinkham discussed the lack of a faculty member's ability to chair a thesis prior to tenure and the need to reapply afterward. Wording changes were discussed, including elimination of the restriction for chairing a thesis for pre-tenure faculty who are approved for graduate faculty status. Matt Reardon moved to pass changes to status to the Graduate Council. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation.

*SB17 Information*

Nancy Garcia moved to send the A&M Q&A information on SB17 via email to the entire campus community, which was seconded and passed by acclamation.

Matt Reardon moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded at 1:49pm.

Respectfully,



Kenneth Denton